So also, if the Legislative Council is held on a Sunday, the Christians will have some inconvenience. Therefore, having regard to that matter, the President will.....

Mr. President : It is after taking into consideration, *i.e.*, the communal and religious requirements of various communities that public holidays have been fixed by the Government. The Chair has no power to carry it over like this.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* If the members are agreeable?

Mr. President : Then the proper procedure is for the member to authorise any other member to move the resolution and then request for the postponement of the discussion. If the House is prepared to accommodate the member in that manner I have no objection. But I should consider that it is a very dangerous precedent here. The Jews who are in service may claim the right to absent themselves for the 52 holidays in a year. So, if Mr. Salem or any other member for any reason is unable to be present, then I should suggest that they should adopt this procedure, *i.e.*, to authorise any other member to move the resolution and if the House is further inclined to do so, it may allow further discussion to be postponed. You may follow that procedure hereafter.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will it apply to Bills also ?

Mr. President : Provided the rules allow that. What I say is subject to the rules. I do not know what is the rule with regard to the Bills.

11. Five-year Scheme for Communication Facilities in Panchayats

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):*

Sir, I beg to move the resolution standing in my name which reads thus.—

"This Council recommends to the Government to call upon all Village Panchayats in the State to submit reports on the necessity of providing facilities for communication for the next 5 years in their respective Panchayats and to consolidate and formulate a 5 year scheme for the whole State on the model of the Road Board Scheme, allotting separate funds for the purpose."

The inadequacy of the facilities of communication existing in our State has been repeatedly pointed out on many an occasion

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before. Not one Session of this Council passes without a few questions being put or a few resolutions being introduced in regard to this very important matter of providing facilities for communication. When budgets are prepared every year only very meagre allotments are made for the purpose of original works in communications and even when allotments are made, more important and more urgent works are left out and works of a lesser urgency and importance are seen to have been included. Whenever there is a petition from a considerable number of the members of the public, the usual reply that we get is that the work required by the petitioners will be provided for as and when funds are available. I submit this is a very convenient phrase whereby you can very beautifully say that you deny their request. I know of instances where the Govenment have passed orders on a petition that a particular work required by the people will be provided for in the budget of a particular year and when the budget of that particular year is prepared no consideration was paid to this reply and we found to our surprise that that particular work was not at all provided for, but works of lesser urgency and lesser utility were included. My intention in introducing this resolution before this Hon'ble House is to enable the Government to spend the amount that they are spending now on communications in a better and more useful manner and also to enable the Government to avoid this sort of criticism from the public in future with regard to the spending of this amount. The importance of providing facilities for communication in rural parts need not I think be dealt with at length in this House. In any scheme of rural develepment communications should find the foremost place. Without adequate provision for transporting the rural articles from outside the rural areas we will not be able to fetch better prices for our agricultural products, and without raising the level of the prices of our agricultural products we will not be able to improve the economic conditions of the agriculturists. Therefore in any scheme of rural development, the most important matter that the Government has to takle is adequate facilities for communication throughout the rural areas within our State.

(At this stage the Hon'ble President left and the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

The best people to Judge in regard to the necessity of a particular road or a particular lane in a village is the village panchayat. I suppose the Government will also accept that position. We have got about 100 village panchayats and about 270 villages. So, for every two or three villages we have got a

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panchayat. It is always better to consult the village panchayats with regard to the requirements of the different villages. It will be very advantageous to the public as well as the Government if we ask every village panchayat to submit a report in regard to the necessity of communications within their respective jurisdiction for a particular number of years to come, and if we collect such particulars and consolidate the same and prepare a comprehensive scheme we should also ear-mark separate funds for this purpose so that we will not have occasions to hear of any complaints from the public that their needs have been disregarded. By preparing such a scheme and acting according to that scheme the one great advantage that we get is this. The Government will know what they have to do for the next 5 years. The people will also know what they can expect from the Government for the next five years. The utility of such a procedure and the advantage that the people will be able to derive from it have been amply illustrated by the way in which we have been able to work the Road Board scheme that we are completing this year. With regard to more important works in the State we constituted a Road Board, and this Board by taking evidence and by inspecting localities drew up a scheme covering a period of 5 years. We are just completing the work detailed by the Road Board and even though the Government have not been able to conform strictly to the programme outlined by the Board, yet I can with confidence say that the scheme as outlined has been worked almost to the satisfaction of all concerned. I would therefore request the Government both in the interest of the Government and the public at large to call upon all the village panchayats in the State to submit detailed reports with regard to their particular requirements, paying special attention to the facilities already available in the village, to the area and density of population, to prepare a comprehensive scheme and also to ear-mark separate funds to bring it into effect.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Pazhayannur):* Who is to consolidate these works? Is it the Department or a committee?

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* My resolution does not say who should be responsible for making the consolidation and the preparation of the scheme. I am only particular that the village panchayats should be consulted in the matter. Either the Government or an independent body selected by this Council can prepare the scheme out of this data. I, therefore, commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House.

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*Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution that is moved in this House and I need not stress the importance of facilities of communications in rural development. When we attach such importance to rural development and spend large sums of money, it has become the important function of the Government to pay special attention on the question of the development of roads. As the mover has pointed out, in view of the necessity for these roads especially for facilitating the markets, special emphasis need be given on the question of improving or enlarging the existing roads in the State. I lay more importance to the opening of new roads and new facilities rather than improving the existing roads. I shall make my point clear. There are very many parts in our State which are sadly in lack of proper roads. For example, take the question of adequate communication in the littoral tracts in which I am specially interested. That has been engaging the attention of this Council for sometime. In the last Council, the Government have been pleased to state that the Scheme of Vypeen-Pallipuram road was kept in abeyance for want of funds. May I bring to the notice of the Council that if such a grand undertaking as a trunk road from Vypeen to Pallipuram would not be achieved in the near future, at least the existing communications may be put in a form which can be used by the public? I am giving that only as one instance. The miserable lot of those people who have to travel from the town of Cochin along the littoral tract is sometimes beyond description, because a vast body of labourers go to Cochin and return late at night. I have pointed out in this House that it is something like a pipe-line. What I mean to say is, if it is not possible to open a trunk road between Vypeen and Pallipuram, let the existing path be improved and made accessible to the people to be made use of by them. New roads have to be opened in many parts of the State. The officers of the Government know what difficulties they are sometimes put to during their tours in not having proper roads. Therefore, I have great pleasure in recommending this resolution for the consideration of this House.

It may be asked, is it not enough to have schemes year by year? That is a great draw-back. If there is a definite scheme which is spread over a number of years and definite funds allotted for it, it will be much better. In all these schemes, long term schemes are often found more advantageous than short term plans. Particularly in a matter like this which affects the rural population of the whole State, it is better to have a reasonably long term scheme. That is what is necessary and the department can consolidate all these

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member

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schemes and come to a settlement regarding the needs of each and every Panchayat. Therefore, I have great pleasure in commending this resolution for the consideration of the House.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: പഞ്ചായത്തു റോഡ്"ബോർഡ്" എന്നു പറഞ്ഞ ഒന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നുവൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ പഞ്ചായത്തിൽ ഒരു റോഡ്"ബോർഡുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. പക്ഷെ അതു ഇന്നുള്ളതുപോലെയുള്ള ഒരു റോഡ്"ബോർഡല്ലായിരുന്നു. അവരുടെ വക്കു" പബ്"ളിക്കു" ഹെൽത്തു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിലുള്ള റോഡിനെക്കുറിച്ചായിരുന്നു. അതാണൊ അങ്ങേഹം ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു" എന്നാണു" അറിയേണ്ടതു".

***Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Sir, I do not say that this resolution is unacceptable or objectionable. It is a very reasonable resolution. But the difficulty is to give effect to it. The House has an exaggerated notion of the amount of money spent upon communications. Perhaps you will understand the real situation. I shall give the figures.

Maintenance	..	Rs. 41,651.
Repairs	..	Rs. 7,840.
Original works	..	Rs. 13,432.
Special contribution for rural reconstruction	..	Rs. 10,000.

So out of Rs. 75,000, Rs. 50,000, is absorbed for repairs and maintenance. There is a balance of Rs. 25,000. Unless a larger amount is forthcoming I do not know whether even for a five year plan this will be sufficient. For as we increase the mileage the expenditure for maintenance will also correspondingly be increased. With this Rs. 25,000—that also by adding Rs. 10,000 which is a special contribution—how will we divide it? How can we make a scheme for five years? There is also another incidental difficulty. The panchayats are elected for three years. Different panchayats are elected at different times. I know as a matter of fact from personal experience that what is passed by one panchayat is said to be not necessary by the succeeding panchayat. According to their decision the work is not immediately necessary and is protested by the succeeding panchayat. How can we prepare a scheme? Suppose you frame a scheme for five years. The new panchayats will come and say, " On consideration this is found to be of no use". These are some of the incidental difficulties. But the main difficulty is the paucity of funds. If a lakh of rupees is given for communication every year for original works certainly the scheme will be very useful. I am not criticising the scheme. I am at one with Mr. Nambiar about

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member

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the usefulness of framing such a scheme provided there are sufficient funds to translate the scheme into action. I want the House to consider how it would be possible with this amount to distribute in such a way as to make a scheme for five years. In five years it will come to a lakh and twentyfive thousand rupees and we have got 86 panchayats. Divide this amount. How much would it come to? Rs. 1,500. Rs. 1,500 by itself would not be sufficient for the majority of the roads that we have now undertaken to construct. You may require 3 or 4 thousand rupees. So, the scheme must be for 15 years if an original work of a substantial nature is to be undertaken by a panchayat. Please do not think that I am offering obstacles or objections to the scheme. I am explaining the difficulties. I have not the least doubt that a scheme like this will be of immense use and the distribution will be much more fair than is the case at present. All sorts of comlaints are raised and I myself have noticed them by going through the file. Sometimes a road is taken. Owing to some exigency that is dropped and some other road is taken up. Perhaps all these things may be corrected to some extent. Beyond that the department find themselves unable to carry out the intention enunciated in this resolution. This is the only difficulty and I do not wish to oppose this resolution. I only want to explain this matter and if the House will consider this aspect and if they will suggest to me a method by which I can give effect to this resolution, I shall be very glad to follow their advice. What is the use of accepting this resolution without doing something and for doing something there are practical difficulties? I have explained and if any further proposals are coming from the other side I shall again answer them.

*Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, the whole difficulty is this. There are no funds. So no roads are being opened. If there is a definite programme for 5 years entailing a lakh and a half rupees it will be easy for the Hon'ble Minister to address the Government that these are the needs of the rural population and say, "I want a lakh and fifty thousand rupees in a lump so that I may be able to tackle the problem of communications". Now the whole thing is done in a haphazard fashion. The needs of the rural population are not known. With such a state of affairs the Hon'ble Minister will not be in a position to address the Government and impress upon the Government that more moneys are needed. The allotments that are now being made are parsimonious and niggardly and a liberal policy should be adopted. It is only in that connection that the importance of the five year plan comes into

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member

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play. It is only to strengthen the hands of the Minister to address the Government in the matter. Without a committee and a plan it will be difficult for the Minister to address the Government, to present before the Government all the needs of the rural population as a whole. That is why we wanted a committee and a scheme.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Even if we were to give effect to the recommendations and suggestions of the panchayat already sanctioned it will take at least four lakhs of rupees. Each panchayat submits its own proposals, of course, some are more responsible while others are not varying between 5 to 15 thousand rupees and I am not going to say that all those suggestions are unreasonable, for wherever you construct a road it will be of some use to somebody and easy means of communication will enable the rural population to sell their produce at the same rate but with a higher profit. I quite agree. But as I have been explaining to this House the conception of village as understood generally by the historians and the real villages that we understand in this State are absolutely two different things. That is the great difficulty. In those villages there is a limitation of area where any improvements could be effected with a limited amount. But here it is a vague term. A village is only useful for my friend the Diwan Peishkar for the collection of revenues. Now make a comparison between the villages here and the villages in the adjacent territories of Travancore and British India. You will find the mileage of road here compare very favourably with that in those parts. How are we to give effect to your recommendations. Let the House tell me how I am to do it. We will prepare a scheme. There is no trouble for it. We will ask the panchayats to submit a scheme. The scheme will be prepared and it will come to about 7 or 8 lakhs of rupees. Roads and tanks may come in. Roads are necessary. Then the Road Board was mentioned. What happend to the Road Board? I challenge this House that if we go into that Board it will be found that complaints may legitimately be made that certain taluks have benefitted more than others. So also in the case of panchayats. You say that a certain village is given 5,000 rupees and certain other village only Rs. 500. Equal allotment is out of the question, equal division is out of the question. A generous division is also out of the question because of paucity of funds. How are we to solve this difficulty. I expect Mr. Nambiar will give some suggestions.

The House rose for lunch at 1-5 p.m. and re-assembled at 2-30 with M. R. Ry. K. Ayyappan Avl., the Deputy President, in the Chair.

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I have raised certain points and after hearing the view-point of the hon'ble members I may have to say a few words later on. I have placed all the cards on the table. Now let me hear you.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Sir, the resolution is to call upon all the village panchayats in the State to submit reports on the necessity of providing facility for communication for the next five years in their respective panchayats and to consolidate and formulate a five year scheme for the whole State on the model of the Road Board Scheme, allotting separate funds for the purpose. Some points were raised by the Hon'ble Minister during the remarks which he made in the morning and I have only to say that it is better to have a consolidated scheme by the several panchayats so that particular items of work can be taken up as and when it is suitable to the Government. Now what happens is, I confess, Sir, I do not pretend to know very much about the actual working of the panchayats, whenever a particular small piece of work is necessary that is instantly recommended by the panchayat and when the panchayat recommends that work for a number of times, the department simply to avoid boredom, as it were, accepts that work and the order is passed that it shall be included in the budget of next year. I know of cases where sanctioned works have been kept in abeyance for a number of years while at other times original works have been undertaken in preference to the works already sanctioned. Such cases do occur. All these things happen because there is no systematised definite programme on which to base the work of each particular year. Paucity of funds was put forward as one of the causes. We are not on that point now. Let us take a particular village, and let us call that particular panchayat to submit a plan stating their needs for the next five years. A particular village may be taken and they may be asked as to what are their needs by way of communications for the next five years. Of course, it will be parochial to refer to particular things in the localities. But I know of several cases. For example, the necessity for two or three roads for Nemmara was brought to the notice the hon'ble Minister. Let us ask them what are their needs for the next five years. It is quite possible for the panchayatdars to put their heads together and think about a plan of work for the next five years and submit a scheme for the next five years. Each panchayat may be circularised by the department concerned and their reports may be called for enumerating their several needs for the next five years. The whole thing can be collected and according to the availability of funds amounts may either be distributed or I have no objection to even certain villages being neglected for a number of years.

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Concentration of work may be taken up with regard to particular panchayats. Let us have at least a model panchayat or few model panchayats where there are enough roads so that by turns, as now attempted by the Hon'ble Minister with regard to the policy of allocating a lump sum to particular panchayats, in the long run, we will have a net work of panchayats having all their needs satisfied. Now, it is worked without meaning any offence to anybody in a haphazard fashion. The child which cries most gets the mother's milk. A number of petitions from the public, a number of recommendations from the panchayats, interviews with the departmental head concerned and finally with the Minister and when things are pressed in such a persistent fashion the department at last sanctions a particular work. Even to get a work sanctioned we have to do so much. A co-ordinated systematised plan of the needs of all the panchayats in the State, subsequently critically scrutinised by the department concerned and then allocations of money for the purpose of particular undertakings will do much more good than this way of haphazardly doling out small sums without being able to do any appreciable work in any panchayat concerned. That is what I have to submit. I really fail to see whether there will be much difficulty in putting it into practice.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: No difficulty at all. So far as the scheme is concerned there is no difficulty. But in giving effect to the scheme in a practical manner the difficulty arises. This limited fund available, *viz.*, 20 or 25 thousand rupees, in five years will make a lakh and twenty-five thousand rupees. How to divide this lakh and twenty five thousand rupees among the 80 or 90 panchayats?

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara)*: That is a big question of policy. Now it is admitted by the Hon'ble Minister that there is no difficulty with regard to the scheme.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: The panchayats will be able to do it within a month's time.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara)*: Subsequently exercise judgment as to which work may be taken up first.

The question of big policy is whether we are able to get sufficient funds for the purpose.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: With the funds now available it will not be of much value.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara)*: That is, with the funds now available it may not be worth-while to spend so much

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money in order to prepare a scheme when we know that there is not enough money to put it through. For that what I have to submit is you will have to clamour for more. Again the crux of the problem is that. You will have to press for more money. Say, "My department requires more money, so please give me more money". I know the difficulties in the matter. I know what it is. But if the department concerned is not getting sufficient money the simple remedy is for the Hon'ble Minister to say, "I want so much money for a particular purpose and unless it is forthcoming I will not be able to do my duty so far as that thing is concerned."

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Government will say, "This is the available fund. You yourself suggest in what way we are to give you more". I must be in a position to answer them. Please give me that answer.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* The Hon'ble Minister is a doctor and he knows that a patient cannot be treated piecemeal. Any treatment by way of external application of ointment cannot cure the disease. The whole system can be cured only by one method and for that there are many difficulties. What we are now doing is patch-work and we are attempting to treat the eye externally without going into the question whether treatment of the whole body is necessary for the purpose of curing the disease of the eye. I know the answer. The Hon'ble Minister also knows the answer. The only answer is "We want full responsible government". But I do not wish to drag in all these points.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Even for argument's sake, suppose responsible government comes tomorrow. What will be the next procedure to meet these requirements?

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Is it the case now that we have not enough funds? That is not the case. We are not getting enough for this particular purpose.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Have we got a superfluous surplus? Let me put an academical question. There is a surplus, no doubt. Every careful Government must keep some surplus just as the municipality does to some extent. Is it my friend's contention that this surplus is far and above what a prudent Government should keep.

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Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Our financial position is very strong. We have got enough money for the purpose of these panchayat roads. Now for purposes of such a character the economic theory at present promulgated is that we must borrow and if the Hon'ble Minister wants an authority I can quote the Hon'ble Diwan-President himself for that position. A criticism was raised, Sir, that what former Diwans accumulated the present Diwan came and spent away. That is wrong. The sound economic theory is—of course it won't appeal to our *karanavans* if we say that we must squander the money we have and then borrow—for the purpose of such capital works the present generation must not be made to pay for a work which is to enure for the benefit of future generations and for all generations to come. The economic theory seems to be that for such purposes it is necessary and it is even wise economy to borrow and then repay gradually, not putting the whole burden on the present generation. So far as our finances are concerned it has been our pride—and legitimately too—that we have got enough funds. Our economic position is sound. Our credit in the market is high and from so many other causes we are not suffering from paucity of funds. But if it is an unwillingness on the part of the reserved half to part with the money for the purpose of the improvement of this department the only course for the Minister is to put forward a strong demand for the purpose of allocation of sufficient funds and if that demand is refused you know the remedy and all of us know. On questions of high policy it is for the Minister to say what is necessary and that should be supported by the House. As regards the practical difficulties of the problem there is no difficulty excepting want of funds for which I just mentioned two or three points for the consideration of the Hon'ble Minister. It appears to me that the resolution is a very practical one and there is nothing wrong in the Government accepting it and the House passing it.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has more or less agreed with the feasibility of preparing a scheme so that it may not be necessary for me to dwell on it at length. The only difficulty and perhaps a very important difficulty suggested by the Hon'ble Minister is with regard to funds. I can understand the force of that contention if it is not open to the Minister to make a demand for funds. In other words, while I will be the last person to request the Hon'ble Minister to prepare a fabulous and specultive scheme without any relation to its financial implications I think it is the Hon'ble Minister's duty to bestow his best consideration upon the necessary items before the scheme is actually prepared and according

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to his conscience to recommend to the Government the amount that will be necessary for the working of the scheme which he thinks is necessary and essential for the advancement of the panchayats. In other words, suppose there are 80 panchayats today and everyone of these panchayats is making a demand for 10 or 15 roads, it is not the duty of the Hon'ble Minister to take up all the 15 roads. But if you are convinced that out of the 15 roads required by them five roads at least are necessary, a scheme of a limited nature which is absolutely necessary for the development of the panchayats prepared according to the best of your reasons should be presented before the Government and if you cannot force the Government to grant you that money I think it is the Hon'ble Minister's duty to examine his greater duty of seeing that his demands are respected by the Government and in doing so those who sit on the opposition will stand by the Hon'ble Minister. I, therefore, suggest Sir, while I do not for a moment want the Hon'ble Minister to prepare any fabulous scheme if on preparing a reasonable scheme he finds it impossible that the finances at his command do not permit him to put it through it is his duty to make a demand and let this House know whether such a demand has been thrown out by the Government. I have only to say so much about it.

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*Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Sir, as I said at the very outset there is no insuperable difficulty at all in making a scheme—a very reasonable scheme. That can easily be got down. With regard to the other difficulties I have explained my position to the House. What I would like the House to do is in the light of this discussion I propose to place this matter for a fuller discussion before the panchayat conference which is expected to meet in another four or five weeks. The whole question may be placed before them and all the arguments advanced in this House will be placed before them and we will ascertain their views. In any case, as I said, if the House is very anxious I can prepare a scheme. On the other hand, it will be better to consult the panchayats themselves about this new departure and ascertain their views and in the light of the views expressed by them a scheme shall be prepared and placed at the disposal of this Council. I think that will meet the requirements of the hon'ble members.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura)*: Sir, in view of the Hon'ble Minister's reply I will just explain in a few words the main reason which prompted me to place this resolution before this House. The Hon'ble Minister has been criticised from

*Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member

all quarters for the last few years that he has not been able to place a definite concrete scheme before either the Government or this House for their acceptance in regard to the work of rural reconstruction which has been specially entrusted to him. When criticisms were levelled against him naturally he retorted by throwing out a challenge to the members sitting on this side to come forward with schemes if they have got any, so that rural reconstruction work can be carried on in the State in accordance with a set plan. My submission is, even though it is not possible to formulate a comprehensive scheme covering all the aspects of our rural life all on a sudden, this resolution will indicate certain lines in which the Hon'ble Minister can proceed and find out the actual requirements of the several villages in our State wherefrom he can formulate a scheme and place it before the Government for their acceptance. I have also tabled a similar resolution with regard to the provisions for irrigation and drainage facilities. That is also a question which affects vitally the agricultural population of the State and that is also a matter in which the Hon'ble Minister can find out from the several village panchayats the actual requirements of the rural population for formulating a similar scheme. It is not proper to contend on the part of any Government, if they are convinced that a particular item of work is necessary, that they have not got the funds required for that purpose. I say it is time to cry a halt to the practice of spending large amounts for the improvement of cities and towns and diverting a portion at least of our income for the betterment of the rural population of our State. In view however of the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister that he will be consulting the panchayat conference about this matter I beg leave of the House to withdraw my resolution.

Resolution, by leave, withdrawn

12. Deletion of S. O. 17 of the General Standing Orders

***Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon** (Cranganur):* Sir, the resolution which I have tabled for the acceptance of this House is that *"This Council recommends to the Government that Standing Order 17 of the General Standing Orders may be deleted."* It is one which, in my opinion, is essential to enable the Government to discharge its duties towards various communities equally and equitably. I shall refer to the standing order.—"Subject to conditions of honesty and efficiency promotions may as a rule be given in the order of

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member

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